



# **HORWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

---

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,**

**For Year Ended 31st December, 1938.**



**HORWICH :**

**FLETCHER, PRINTER, LONGWORTH ROAD.**



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29436643>



# **HORWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

---

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For Year Ended 31st December, 1938.



HORWICH :

FLETCHER, PRINTER, LONGWORTH ROAD.

# Public Health Officers of the Authority.



Medical Officer of Health (part time) and Medical Officer to the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and Artificial Light Clinics :

J. S. Sewell, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., (M.R. San. I.).

Chief Sanitary and Meat Inspector—C. Coop, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary and Meat Inspector—R. Hilton, M.S.I.A.

Health Visitors :

Miss A. Alderson, C.M.B.    State Registered Nurse.

Miss H. Bateson, C.M.B.        "(Health Visitor's Certificate).

Clerks :

Miss E. Gillett.

Miss E. Farnworth.

:



HORWICH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

---

# MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

For the Year Ending 31st, December, 1938.

---

*To the Chairman and Members of the*

*Horwich Urban District Council.*

“ Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my 31st Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1938.

Acting under the instructions of the Ministry of Health, the report for 1938 will again be an “ Ordinary Report ” and not a “ Survey Report.” The information given (with the exception of those items for which particulars are requested) will be limited to a record of alterations, improvements and developments which have taken place during the year.

The Annual Report for 1938 will contain as a minimum information on the following matters :

- (a). Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.  
General Provision of Health Services in the Area.  
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.  
Housing.  
Inspection and Supervision of Food.  
Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

(b). A statement of any noteworthy conditions prejudicial to the health of the area which have not been adequately dealt with in Special Reports of the Medical Officer of Health.

(c). A statement of any special action taken during the year in the area to arouse further interest in the prevention of ill-health or the importance of early treatment.

(d). A summary of important Special Reports, if any, made during the year.

The Comparability Factor, or, as it is now styled, the Areal Comparability Factor (A.C.F.) has been explained in previous reports. The factor for Horwich is 1.08 which being above unity means that our age and sex constitution is slightly favourable to a low mortality.

During 1938, a large amount of additional work has been thrown upon the Department by the organisation of A.R.P. Health Services. A First Aid Post is in course of preparation at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. There is still a deficiency in the number of volunteers required to staff this post and to form First Aid Parties.

Since the advent of 1939, the Council have had under consideration the question of establishing a Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. No definite decision has yet been arrived at.

Summarising the whole report one is pleased to note the absence of any deaths due to maternity and a heavy fall in the Infantile Mortality rate.

The sanitary improvements recorded would have been impossible without the whole hearted co-operation of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Health Visitors, and my other fellow officials and their staffs.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

*J. S. Sewell*

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (Acres), 3254.

Population, Census 1931, 15680.      Estimated 1938, 14920.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938),  
according to Rate Books, 4643.

Rateable Value, £71,840.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £265.

*Social Conditions*:—There appears to be further improvement in the social conditions.

*Vital Statistics*.—

The population of the Urban District of Horwich for mid 1938 as estimated by the Registrar General is 14920. The rates are calculated on 14920.

	Total.	Males	Females.
Births (legitimate) .....	158	77	81
Births (illegitimate) .....	3	1	2
Total.....	161	78	83

Birth Rate 10·7 per 1,000.

Still Births .....	13	9	4
--------------------	----	---	---

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births, 74.

Deaths .....	195	96	99
--------------	-----	----	----

Crude Death Rate 13·0 per 1,000.

Adjusted Death Rate 14·0 per 1,000.

Areal Comparability Factor 1·08.

Deaths from Puerperal causes :

Puerperal Sepsis nil ; other puerperal causes nil.

Death Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births nil.

Death-rate of infants under 1 year of age :

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	31
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...				25
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...				333 .
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	..	...	...	16
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	—

The following table gives the mean of the 5 years 1933-1937 :

	Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Live Births
	Live B.-Rate	Crude D.-Rate	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of respiratory system	Death Rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Mean of 5 years 1933-1937	11.5	12.0	0.35	1.25	6.84	6.52	67
Year.							
1937	11.7	13.0	0.40	1.33	5.68	5.20	119
1938	10.7	13.0	0.67	1.07	nil	nil	31

Increase or decrease in 1938 on 5 years average, 1933-1937 :

—0.8    +1.0    +0.32    —0.18    —6.84    —6.52    —36

Previous year :

—1.0    nil    +0.27    —0.26    —5.68    —5.20    —88

1938 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor 1.08) =  
14.0 per 1,000.



The following table gives the number of deaths from the various diseases during the year 1938:

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES	96	99
Influenza ... ..	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0
Diphtheria ... ..	1	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	4	6
Other Tuberculous Dis. ...	1	1
Cancer ... ..	8	8
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	0	0
Diabetes ... ..	0	4
Cerebral Hæmorrhage &c..	4	8
Heart Disease ... ..	28	25
Aneurysm ... ..	0	0
Other Circulatory Diseases	5	4
Bronchitis ... ..	0	3
Pneumonia... ..	7	4
Other respiratory ... ..	3	1
Cirrhosis of liver ...	0	0
Other Liver Diseases ...	0	2
Other Digestive Diseases...	1	3
Nephritis ... ..	2	6
Puerperal sepsis ... ..	0	0
Other puerperal Diseases...	0	0
Peptic Ulcer ... ..	2	0
Appendicitis ... ..	1	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	3	2
Senility ... ..	12	11
Suicide ... ..	0	0
Other Violence ... ..	5	2
Other Defined Diseases ...	9	6
Causes ill-defined or unknown	0	1

Deaths of infants under 1 year ... ..	3	2
Legitimate...	3	1
Illegitimate ... ..	0	1
<hr/>		
Total Live Births ... ..	78	83
Legitimate...	77	81
Illegitimate ... ..	1	2
<hr/>		
Total Stillbirths ... ..	9	4
Legitimate...	9	4
Illegitimate ... ..	0	0
Population...		14,920.

The next table gives the Birth-Rate, Death-Rate, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-Rates, and Case-Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938. } England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns, and 148 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County
Rates per 1,000 Population				
Births :				
Live ... ..	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still ... ..	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
Deaths :				
All Causes ... ..	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers } ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—
Measles... ..	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet fever ... ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough ... ..	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria ... ..	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza ... ..	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
Notifications :				
Smallpox ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet fever ... ..	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria ... ..	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric fever ... ..	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas ... ..	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia ... ..	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
Rates per 1000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	5.3	5.7	5.1	5.7
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ...	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
Maternal Mortality :				
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	0.89	} NOT AVAILABLE		
Others ... ..	2.19			
Total ... ..	3.08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)				
Maternal Mortality :				
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	0.86	} NOT AVAILABLE		
Others ... ..	2.11			
Total ... ..	2.97			
Notifications .				
Puerperal fever ... ..	} 14.42	18.08	12.51	{ 3.53
Puerperal pyrexia ... ..				

No causes of sickness or invalidity have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year. No evidence has been forthcoming that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

In the report for 1930 detailed information as to the health services provided in this area was given. Under the instructions of the Ministry, in the present report, it will be sufficient to indicate any alterations or developments which have taken place since 1930.

1. *Nursing in the Home.*—(a) *General.*—No change.  
(b).—*Infectious Diseases.*—No change.
2. *Midwives.*—Under the Midwives Act, 1936, the County Council have appointed two County Midwives, Nurse Jolly and Nurse Martin to reside in Horwich. In addition, two other Midwives practise in the town.
3. *Laboratory Facilities.*—No change.
4. *Legislation in Force.*—No change.
5. *Hospitals.*—No change. Townley's hospital is being increasingly used for the treatment of Maternity and Puerperal Fever cases. During the year 54 Maternity cases were admitted to this hospital.
6. *Maternity and Nursing Homes.*—The County Council is the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives' Acts and Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927.
7. Apart from the arrangements with the Townleys Hospital there is no provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the district.
8. *Ambulance facilities.*—These are adequate. 565 cases have been dealt with during the year. Total mileage is 7742.
9. *Clinics and Treatment Centres.*—The new Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and School Clinic, opened during 1937 is the point upon which many activities are focused.

During the year 27 children of school age were referred by the School Medical Officer for Artificial Light Treatment. 579 exposures were given. In addition 18 children between the ages of 0—5 received 277 exposures.



10. *Maternal Mortality*.—Medical Officers of the County Council investigate cases of puerperal fever and maternal deaths. Dr. R. W. Beesley and Dr. J. Scott, of Bolton, act as Consultants in cases of Puerperal Sepsis and Puerperal Pyrexia, also as Consultants at the Ante-natal Clinics.

Close co-operation is maintained with the midwives and doctors in the town and notes of the findings at the Centre are sent to them. The Midwives voluntarily bring or send their cases to the clinic for examination. Under the Midwives Act of 1936 this duty is now compulsory. 64·28 per cent of expectant mothers attended the ante-natal clinic during the year.

11. *Health Visiting of Children, 1 to 5 years*.—This is included under the duties of the two Health Visitors.

12. *Child Life Protection*.—Under the Acts the two Health Visitors have been appointed the executive officers, but at present there are no cases requiring their attention.

13. *Orthopaedic Treatment*.—The County Council hold a monthly Clinic for the prevention, treatment, and after care of crippling conditions. The County nurses follow up the cases during the interval and see that the treatment advised is carried out.

The Horwich Council have an arrangement with the County Council to attend children from 0-5 years of age sent to them. This arrangement includes, if necessary, treatment in Biddulph Hospital.

14. *Ophthalmic Treatment*.—The Council have made arrangements with the County Council's Ophthalmic Clinic for the treatment of cases of eye defect discovered in children under 5 years of age.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

*Water*.—The sources are Moorland and Pumping Station. The filtration scheme is now in operation and has given general satisfaction. Some difficulty has been experienced in gauging the amount of lime and alum necessary to add to the water owing to the difference in p.H. values of the Moorland and Tup Row supplies. The Moorland water is an acid water with a p.H. averaging 4·6, while the Tup Row supply has an average of 8·5. During the summer months when the contents of the reservoir are wholly Moorland, it has been found necessary to add more lime, and to add it before filtration instead of after.

Appended are the chemical and bacteriological analyses of the water.

WATER—CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Description of Sample	Marklands Reservoir 6' from valve tower.	House Tap 29, Longworth Road.
Date Collected	17th March, 1938.	17th March, 1938.
Colour	Yellow	Yellow
Turbidity	Slight	None
Smell	None	None
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours @ 27° C.)	0.186	0.174
Free and Saline Ammonia (as NH <sub>3</sub> )	0.0036	0.0018
Albuminoid Ammonia (as NH <sub>3</sub> )	0.0088	0.0080
Nitrous Nitrogen (as NH <sub>3</sub> )	Nil	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen (as NH <sub>3</sub> )	0.054	0.033
Chlorides (as Cl)	1.6	2.1
Hardness { Temporary	1.5	1.5
Clarke's { Permanent	5.0	6.0
Method { Total	6.5	7.5
Reaction pH	8.0	8.0
Action on lead (24 hours)	0.18	0.04
Metals	Nil	Nil

WATER—BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

<p>Description of Sample</p> <p>Date Collected</p>	<p>Marklands Reservoir 6' from valve tower.</p> <p>17th March, 1938.</p>	<p>House Tap 29, Longworth Road.</p> <p>17th March, 1938.</p>
<p>Aerobic micro-organisms growing in yeastrel agar</p> <p>in 3 days at 22° C.....</p> <p>in 2 days at 37° C.....</p>	<p>No. of colonies per C.C. of water.</p> <p>81</p> <p>9</p>	<p>No. of colonies per c.c. of water.</p> <p>225</p> <p>11</p>
<p>Bacteria associated with sewage or faecal pollution</p> <p>Bacterium coli .....</p>	<p>Quantity of water in which these bacteria were found   not found —   100 c.c.</p>	<p>Quantity of water in which these bacteria were found   not found —   100 c.c.</p>
<p>Probable number of coli-aerogenes bacteria per 100 c.c. of water .....</p> <p>From McCrady's Tables, Ministry of Health, 1934.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>



*Rivers and Streams.*—No pollution.

*Drainage and Sewerage.*—No important extensions made during the year.

*Closet Accommodation.*—There are 4203 Fresh Water Closets, 1044 Waste Water Closets, 58 Pail Closets and 14 Privy Middens now existing in the district.

During the year, 12 waste water closets have been converted to fresh water closets. I have for a number of years advocated the conversion of waste water closets to fresh water closets. This has now been made possible by the passing of the Public Health Act, 1936, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1937. A Scheme has now been prepared and accepted by the Council for the conversion of these closets and we hope during the next few years to convert a considerable number to fresh water closets.

*Public Cleansing.*—During the year, 2385 privies, ashpits and pails, and 251,440 dustbins have been emptied by the Council's workmen, making approximately 5,110 tons of refuse removed.

*Collection and Disposal.*—Dry refuse is collected from dustbins into dustless low loading refuse removal motor vehicles. Refuse is conveyed to Red Moss Tip and disposed of by means of Controlled Tipping.

*Earth closets, privies and cesspools.*—Contents emptied into vehicle specially adapted for the purpose. Contents removed and disposed of on farm land. All earth closets, privies and cesspools after emptying are cleansed and purified with a disinfectant.

*Sanitary Inspections of the Area.*—The following is a classified statement of the number of inspections and re-inspections made during 1938 :

Houses and other premises	...	...	2487
Slaughter Houses	...	...	560
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops, etc..			87
Shops	...	...	615
Schools	...	...	12
Waterworks	...	...	7
Red Moss Tip	...	...	15
Factories with mechanical power	...		24
Factories without mechanical power	...		86
Infectious Diseases	...	...	139
Market	...	...	70



*Factories and Workshops.*—In accordance with the provisions of Section 128 of the Factories Act, 1937, the Medical Officer of Health is required to make to the Secretary of State for the Home Office the following report which gives in addition to other information, the total number of defects found and notices served:

*1.—Inspections.*

Premises	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories with mechanical power ...	24	3	—
Factories without mechanical power ...	86	15	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including Out- worker's premises) ...	—	—	—
Total	110	18	—

*2.—Defects Found.*

Particulars	Number of Defects Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Number of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	8	8		
Overcrowding (S.2) ...				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)				
Sanitary conveniences (S.7):				
insufficient ...				
unsuitable or defective ...				
not separate for sexes ...				
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937)....	23	23		
Total ...	31	31	Nil	Nil

There was no outwork found to be carried on in unwholesome premises during the year.

There have been 5340 gullies and 3380 water closets flushed and disinfected.

During the year 571 informal notices have been served. 2689 defects or nuisances were found to have been abated, 388 not yet abated. 11 Statutory Notices have been served and the defects abated.

The following is a summary of the abated nuisances and the necessary actions to remedy them :

Damp walls remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	176
House roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
Repairs to windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	393
Defective spouting and rain water pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
New water closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
New dust bins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	250
Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
House walls re-plastered...	...	...	...	...	...	...	207
House doors and floors repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	...	195
Repairs to drains, closets, etc.	...	..	...	...	...	...	321
Yards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
General repairs (fireranges, etc.)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	790

*Shops and Offices.*—All shops in the district have been inspected. Adequate ventilation and a reasonable temperature have been insisted on. Exemption certificates have been granted where it has been found impracticable to provide sanitary conveniences.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, all Offices in the district are being inspected and where found necessary, improvements in the conditions will be insisted upon.

*Camping Sites.*—There are no camping sites in the district.

*Smoke Abatement.*—During the year 50 observations have been taken. No infringement of the Public Health Acts was observed.

*Swimming Baths and Pools.*—There are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools in the district.

*Eradication of Bed Bugs.*

Particulars of action taken during the year :—

No. of houses found to be infested...	(a) Council houses	...	—
	(b) Other houses...	...	2

No. of houses disinfested	(a) Council houses	...	—
	(b) Other houses...	...	2

Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs	Removal of wooden skirtings and mouldings, fumigation of premises with Sulphur or Formaldehyde followed by intensive spraying with an insecticide. (Clymax)
--	---

Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses	Examination before removal.
--	-----------------------------

Is work of disinfestation carried out by local authority or by a contractor?	Local Authority.
--	------------------

Measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing	All houses visited are examined and general cleanliness insisted on. Where dirty houses are found thorough scrubbing and cleaning with soap and water is stressed and premises revisited. After houses have been fumigated and sprayed tenants are advised to spray with an insecticide to prevent re-infestation. These houses are kept under observation.
---	---

*Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by*

*Byelaws and Regulations.—*

*Bakehouses* :—32 in number ; condition satisfactory.

*Slaughter Houses* :—Total 3; 1 registered 2 licensed. Regulations are being adhered to.

Supervision is also maintained over Fish and Chip and Ice Cream premises.

*Other Sanitary Conditions requiring Notice.*—Abolition of waste water closets.

*Schools* :—Continue in a sanitary condition. The type of closet accommodation is under consideration. Co-operation is closely maintained with the School Medical Officer, School Attendance Officer and the teaching staff.

*Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.*—There are no premises on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

---

## HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year •

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under b)	...	...	...	...	...	82
(i)	By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	40
(ii)	By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	—
(iii)	By other bodies and persons	...	...	...	...	...	42
(b)	With State assistance under the Housing Acts.						
(i)	By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	34
(ii)	By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	—



1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.*

(i) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	534
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1773
(ii) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 ...	69
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	227
(iii) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	3
(iv) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	321

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	279
---	-----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year.*

A. *Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.—*

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	9
(ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.	
(a) by owners ...	6
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.—*

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	—
(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a) by owners ...	—
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

C. *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.—*

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	23
(ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	—

*D. Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.—*

- |      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
| (i)  | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..  | — |
| (ii) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. | — |

*4. Housing Act 1935—Overcrowding.*

- |         |   |     |
|---------|---|-----|
| (a) (i) | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..       | 25  |
| (ii)    | Number of families dwelling therein ... ..                          | 25  |
| (iii)   | Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..                           | 169 |
| (b)     | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... .. | 2   |
| (c) (i) | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..     | 5   |
| (ii)    | Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ..                    | 31½ |

*Housing Conditions.*

*General Observations.*—To relieve the shortage of houses and to re-house displaced persons from Clearance Areas, Individual Unfit and Back to Back houses, the Council are at present building 162 houses and bungalows. This number includes 34 one bedroomed bungalows for aged persons.

The question of re-housing overcrowded families is receiving the attention of the Council.

Two cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the Council have been relieved during the year.

The number of overcrowded families in the district at the end of 1938 is 25. In the majority of these cases the tenants are unable to pay the rent for a larger type of house.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

*Milk Supply.*—There are 27 cowkeepers within the district supplying approximately 856 gallons of milk per day. A cow census gives a total of 428.

There are 34 dairymen or milk purveyors (other than cowkeepers).

The Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries examines the cows clinically every quarter. Samples of milk are taken to be examined for tubercle bacilli.

Systematic inspection of the farms, dairies and milkshops is carried out in order to fulfil the requirements of the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act 1915, the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act 1922, and the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

*Meat and other Foods.*—There are 3 private slaughterhouses in the district, 2 licensed and 1 registered. Information is sent to the department as to the times of slaughtering, and ante and post-mortem inspection is carried out.

During 1938 the total weight of carcasses and parts condemned in consequence of Tuberculosis and other diseases is 11233lbs. The following tables give particulars of the number of carcasses inspected and condemned:

TABLE OF CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) .....	319	202	30	2071	288
Number inspected .....	319	202	30	1820	288
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcasses condemned .....	—	1	1	1	—
Cases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	5	5	—	28	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis .....	1·57%	2·97%	3·3%	1·6%	1·39%
Tuberculosis only Whole carcasses condemned .....	—	4	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	48	104	—	—	78
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	15·05%	53·46%	—	—	27·08%



Table Showing Whole Carcases, Parts of Carcases, and Organs Condemned for  
Tuberculosis and Other Conditions.

Animal.	Whole Carcases	Parts of Carcases	Heads	Plucks	Livers	Spleens	Skirts	Udders	Stomachs	Mesent- eries
Cows ...	4	12	41	83	14	3	10	4	12	29
Heifers ...	—	14	14	17	5	2	2	2	2	12
Bullocks	—	2	12	18	—	—	3	—	2	5
Bulls ...	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs ...	—	2	55	28	16	7	—	—	6	6
Calves ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep and Lambs	1	—	—	15	28	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	6	30	125	166	63	12	15	6	22	52

*Adulteration, etc.*—No action taken under the Artificial Cream Act 1929, the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, the Public Health (Preservatives etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927, and the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

*Nutrition.*—The importance of proper nutrition is stressed at the Maternity and Child Welfare clinics. A public lecture was given by the Medical Officer of Health at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre on "Protective Foods."

*Shell-Fish.*—There are no shell-fish beds or layings in the district. Mussels from Warren Point, Ireland, and from the Cleansing Tank, Ribble Estuary, are marketed in the district.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

86 Diphtheria cases with 2 deaths occurred during the year. Our chief difficulty has again been the tracing of mild and missed cases. Supervision has been maintained over cases discharged from hospital with the view of avoiding "return" cases.

During the year 31 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified. As stated in previous reports, the occurrence of Streptococcal sore throats without rash in adults is a frequent source of infection and spread.

A supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin is kept at the Public Hall and is supplied free of charge to medical practitioners.

Pathological and bacteriological specimens are submitted to the pathological laboratory of the University of Manchester for examination. During 1938, 174 swabs were examined for Diphtheria, 46 of which were positive. 9 examinations of Sputa were made for Tubercle Bacilli, and one was reported positive. One examination of faeces for organisms of the Typhoid group was examined and reported negative.

No use has yet been made of the Schick and Dick tests.

No Vaccinations have been performed under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations 1917.

Measles and Whooping Cough are notifiable under a local order.

There are no arrangements in the district for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings. Premises are disinfected with Formaldehyde and Sulphur. Infected articles and bedding are taken to Fall Birch Hospital for steam disinfection.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1938.

Disease	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	At all ages	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox .....															
Scarlet Fever.....			3	3	3	22	8	2		2			43	31	
Diphtheria .....		1	2	4	3	34	30	9	2		1		86	86	2
Enteric Fever .....															
Puerperal Fever .....															
Puerperal Pyrexia.....															
Pneumonia.....	1	2	1	1	1	3	2		6	4	4	3	28	6	11
Erysipelas .....										1	2		3		
Ophthalmia Neon.....	1												1	1	
Encephalitis Lethargica...															
Cerebro Spinal Fever .....															
Acute Poliomyelitis .....															
Chicken Pox .....			1	2	2	13	4	1					23		
Measles, excluding German Measles .....	7	8	15	25	50	94	1		1				201		
Whooping Cough .....				1	3	1							5		
German Measles.....						1							1		
Totals .....	9	11	22	36	62	168	45	12	9	7	7	3	391	124	13

The case rates of these diseases for England and Wales per 1,000 population are shewn on page 9.

### *Prevention of Blindness.*

The health visitors give careful attention to all cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum and themselves carry out the treatment.

### *Ophthalmia Neonatorum.*

Notified.	Treated at Home.	in Hospital.	Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths
0	1	0	1	0	0	0

The above case also received Hospital treatment.

### *Tuberculosis.*

New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Notifications :

#### *Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

Sex.	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upw'ds.	Total
Males						1	1	1	1	1	1	5
Females					1	1			1	1		4

#### *Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

Males		2		2				1				5
Females		1						1				2

Deaths from Tuberculosis :

#### *Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

Males							1		1	1	1	4
Females					1	1	1	1	1	1		6

#### *Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

Males		1										1
Females		1										1

There was one non-notified fatal case of Tuberculosis.

No action has been required under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, and under Section 62 of the Public Health Act 1925.

The notification of Tuberculosis in this area is efficient. It is the general practice to refer all doubtful cases to the Tuberculosis Officers.



## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The ante-natal activities continue. There is now very little difficulty in inducing the mothers to take advantage of the facilities provided. 64·28% of all mothers attended the Clinic during the year. The following conditions found deserve notice :

Albuminuria and High Blood Pressure	...	12
Cæsarian Section	... ..	1
Dental decay	... ..	20
Hæmorrhages	... ..	4
Multiple Pregnancy	... ..	3
Miscarriages in the past	... ..	4
Malpresentations	... ..	2
Previous Abnormal Labour	... ..	7
Primipara	... ..	60
Prolapse	... ..	1
Post Encephalitis	... ..	1
Severe Anæmia	... ..	6
Varicose Veins	... ..	2

The following table gives a summary of the work carried out in the Maternity and Child Welfare Department:

## 1. Number of visits paid during the year by Health Visitors :

(a) To expectant mothers	... ..	First visits	64
		Total visits	223
(b) To children under 1 year of age	...	First visits	169
		Total visits	1775
(c) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years...	.. ... ..	Total visits	1445

## 2. (a) Total number of attendances at the Centre during the year :

(i) By children under 1 year of age	... ..	2876
(ii) By children between the ages of 1 & 5 yrs.		2048

## (b) Total number of children who attended at the Centre for the first time during the year :

(i) Children under 1 year of age	... ..	138
(ii) Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years		21

- (c) Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year were
- |                         |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (i) Under 1 year of age | ... | ... | ... | ... | 107 |
| (ii) Over 1 year of age | ... | ... | ... | ... | 265 |
- (d) Percentage of total notified live births represented by the number in (b) (i)
- |     |     |     |     |      |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| ... | ... | ... | ... | 81.6 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|

3. Ante-natal clinics:

- (a) Total number of attendances by expectant mothers during the year
- |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 521 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
- (b) Total number of expectant mothers who attended at the clinic during the year
- |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ... | ... | ... | ... | 117 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
- (c) Percentage of total notified births represented by the number in (b)
- |     |     |     |     |       |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| ... | ... | ... | ... | 64.28 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|

4. Sunlight Clinic :

- (a) Children between the ages of 0 and 5 given exposures 18
- (b) Total number of exposures
- |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ... | ... | ... | 277 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
- (c) Total number of school children given exposures 27
- (d) Total number of exposures given
- |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|
| ... | ... | 579 |
|-----|-----|-----|

				Mothers.	Children.
5.	Cases referred to Dental Clinic	...	20	...	3
	„ „ Ophthalmic Clinic..		1	...	7
	„ „ Orthopædic Clinic...		—	...	5



